

REMARKS

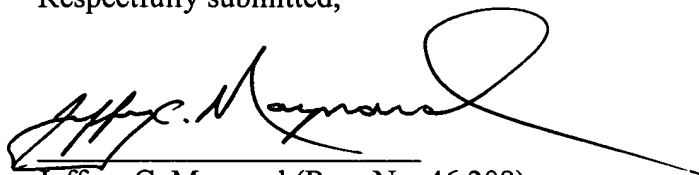
Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested prior to examination of the instant application. This Preliminary Amendment amends claims 1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 17, 18, 26, 28, 30, 31, 39 - 45, 48, and 51; cancels claims 20, 21, 23, 24, 33, 34, 36, 37, 46, 47, 49, and 50; and adds claims 52 - 64 such that claims 1-19, 22, 25-32, 35, 38-45, 48, 51-64 are pending in the application. The amendments were made to claim the subject matter that the Applicants' consider their invention more distinctly.

Examination on the merits of this application is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

2/31/03

Date



Jeffrey C. Maynard (Reg. No. 46,208)
Attorney for Applicant
WHITEFORD, TAYLOR & PRESTON L.L.P.
Seven Saint Paul Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202-1626
(410) 347-9496